

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 040995
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APPROVED BY S/NM: JLINNEMANN
S/NM: DGIBSON
EA/TIMBS: DFIELD
S/NM: DBANOWETZ (INFO)
NEA/RA: SHOLLY(PHONE)
PER: PWOODRING

-----044313 161525Z /53

P 161451Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR/IN, CE

SUBJECT: S. CUSTOMS INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL
TRAINING, ADVANCE TRIP

1. U.S. CUSTOMS PROPOSES ADVANCE TRIP BY TWO U.S. CUSTOMS
INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS OFFICERS TO DISCUSS WITH U.S.
EMBASSY AND NATIONAL CUSTOMS OFFICIALS DESIREABILITY OF
U.S. CUSTOMS INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS TRAINING AVAILABLE TO
CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS OF INDIA AND SRI LANKA.

2. TO DATE, IN ITS VARIOUS INC PROGRAMS, U.S. CUSTOMS HAS
TRAINED OVER 4600 CUSTOMS OFFICERS ON LOCATIONS IN MORE
THAN FIFTY FIVE COUNTRIES; TRAINED 384 MID-MANAGEMENT LEVEL
FOREIGN CUSTOMS OFFICERS IN U.S. BASED PROGRAMS, AND
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PLAYED HOST IN THE UNITED STATES TO 64 SENIOR LEVEL CUSTOMS
EXECUTIVES FROM 29 COUNTRIES IN ITS EXECUTIVE OBSERVATION
PROGRAM. IN ADDITION U.S. CUSTOMS HAS PROMOTED THE INSTI-
TUTIONALIZATION OF ENFORCEMENT TRAINING WITHIN FOREIGN
CUSTOMS INFRASTRUCTURES THROUGH INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMS IN 19 FOREIGN COUNTRIES, IN WHICH THREE HUNDRED
FOREIGN CUSTOMS INSTRUCTORS WERE TRAINED BY U.S. CUSTOMS

IN MODERN METHODS OF NARCOTICS INTERDICTION. ALSO, 99 CUSTOMS OFFICERS FROM 14 FOREIGN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN TRAINED AT THE U.S. CUSTOMS NARCOTIC DETECTOR DOG CENTER AT FRONT ROYAL, VIRGINIA. AT PRESENT, FIVE U.S. CUSTOMS ADVISORS ARE ON LONG TERM ASSIGNMENTS UNDER THE INC PROGRAM IN ECUADOR AND THAILAND AND TWO U.S. CUSTOMS ADVISORS ARE ABOUT TO BE ASSIGNED TO COLOMBIA UNDER THE SAME PROGRAM. U.S. CUSTOMS HAS LONG EXPERIENCE IN CUSTOMS ADVISORY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND HAS STATIONED CUSTOMS ADVISORS IN MORE THAN ELEVEN COUNTRIES.

3. ALSO TO DATE, NEITHER INDIA NOR SRI LANKA HAS PARTICIPATED IN U.S. CUSTOMS INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAMS.

4. CONSIDERING THE ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFIC EMANATING FROM THE SUB CONTINENT AND THE INCREASE OF NARCOTICS TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, U.S. CUSTOMS SUGGESTS THAT A VERY IMPORTANT PREREQUISITE FOR IMPROVED ENFORCEMENT CONTROL THE EMPLOYMENT OF UP-TO-DATE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AND INTERDICTION TECHNIQUES BY SRI LANKA AND INDIAN CUSTOMS, MAY BE WANTING IN THE OVERALL NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM.

5. THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE ALSO SUGGESTS THAT A VERY IMPORTANT RESOURCE, CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT TRAINING TO

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DEVELOP, EMPLOY AND INSTITUTIONALIZE SUCH TECHNIQUES, COULD BE PROVIDED BY U.S. CUSTOMS TO THE CUSTOMS SERVICES OF INDIA AND SRI LANKA.

6. WITH THIS PURPOSE IN MIND, U.S. CUSTOMS REQUESTS THE U.S. MISSIONS TO CONCUR WITH TIS PROPOSAL TO SEND A U.S. CUSTOMS TEAM COMPRISING TWO CUSTOMS OFFICERS TO VISIT THE MISSIONS TO DISCUSS WITH THEM AND WITH CONCERNED CUSTOMS OFFICIALS THE PARTICIPATION OF INDIA AND SRI LANKA CUSTOMS IN U.S. CUSTOMS INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM.

7. THE TEAM VISIT WOULD TENTATIVELY BE SCHEDULED FOR LATE APRIL, AND WOULD BE OF APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK DURATION IN EACH COUNTRY.

8. UPON CONCURRENCE, U.S. CUSTOMS WILL PROVIDE DETAILS OF ETA AND ITINERARY AND REQUEST THE MISSION'S TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS WITH INTERESTED U.S. MISSION AND NATIONAL CUSTOMS OFFICIALS. VANCE

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